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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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09/846,121

04/30/2001

Joseph B. Elad

QUANTUM-1

5233

54884 7590 11/03/2008
GOMEZ INTERNATIONAL PATENT OFFICE, LLC
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EXAMINER

DASS, HARISH T

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3692

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

11/03/2008

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

**Supplement
Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

09/846,121

Examiner

HARISH T. DASS

Applicant(s)

ELAD ET AL.

Art Unit

3692

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 10/3/2008.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,4-28 and 31-60.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: ____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date ____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date ____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).**
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 02/11/02; 02/22/07
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date ____.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other ____.

DETAILED ACTION

This supplement Notice of Allowability is in response to Printer Rush of 10/3/2008.

This communication corrects typo errors for claims 4 and 7.

Examiner's amendment;

Claim 4 line 5 should read "claim1".

Claim 7 line 12 should read "claim 1".

1. This communication is in response to applicant's paper filed on 9/22/2008.
2. Note: A typo error on page 16 of the claims, claim 12 is not canceled, this is an earlier error not removed by the attorney.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 1, 4-28, 31-60 are pending and have been allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter allowance:

Independent claims 1, 28 and 57 and their dependent claims 4-27, 31-56, and 58-60 are allowed because the closes prior art references of US 6,584,451 (Shoham et al.), US 6,012,046 (Lupien et al.) and US 6,892,185 (Van Etten et al.) and prior art of record in any combination failed to teach or render obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, a method of:

(e) capturing market data from market transactions and using the market data to automatically predict costs of attribute states in hypothetical transactions by steps comprising:

(i) recording the request and offer data, along with the transaction price and quantity, for the committed transactions, and for other transactions that scored sufficiently well, and for requests and offers that were not matched in the market;

(ii) inferring market value relationships from other data sources, such as sellers' advertisements, and or buyers' requests for proposals;

(iii) using of mathematical function approximation techniques for constructing market value functions that describe the relationship between price and the states of various intrinsic or extrinsic attributes in a hypothetical market;

(f) automatically joining buyers' requests in a consortium by steps comprising:

(i) forming the best partition of the buyers' requests into groups or singletons of requests whose representation of attributes can be satisfied by the same seller offering;

(ii) forming the combined abstract representation of the requests for the consortium, said representation which will satisfy each buyer in the consortium;
and

(iii) constructing an artificial negotiating entity that will represent at least one consortium, and can conceal the identities of the buyers in the consortium.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to HARISH T. DASS whose telephone number is (571)272-6793. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 AM to 4:50 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Abdi Kambiz can be reached on 571-272-6702. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Harish T Dass/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3692

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10/29/2008